## Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claim 12 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend claims 1, 10, 11, and 20, and add new claims 21 and 22, as set forth in the below listing of the claims. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1.      (Currently Amended) A system adapted to support dental patient scheduling, comprising:

a network to communicate information relating to a manufacturing stage;

one or more patient computers coupled to the network; and

a server coupled to the network, the server <u>configured to automatically communicate</u> ~~communicating~~ manufacturing progress information with the patient computer and <u>to perform</u> ~~performing~~ patient scheduling when one or more dental appliances reach a predetermined manufacturing progress.

2.      (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server sends a message to a patient when the appliances reach a predetermined manufacturing stage.

3.      (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server sends a message to a patient when the appliances are being marked.

4.      (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the server sends a message to a treating professional when the appliances reach one or more intermediate stages of manufacturing.

5.      (Original)  The system of claim 1, wherein the server sends an electronic mail message to transmit information relating to manufacturing progress.

6.      (Original)  The system of claim 1, wherein the server maintains calendar pages for the treating professionals.

7.      (Original)  The system of claim 1, wherein the server invites a patient to access an on-line calendar and schedule an appointment when the appliances reach the last stage of manufacturing.

8.      (Original)  The system of claim 1, further comprising a network of treating professionals coupled to the network.

9.      (Original)  The system of claim 1, wherein the server requests intervention from manufacturing personnel when one or more manufacturing stages fall behind schedule.

10.     (Currently Amended)  The system of claim 9, wherein the server ~~updates~~ is configured to update the patient with information relating to a delay caused by manufacturing slippage.

11.     (Currently Amended)  A system adapted to support scheduling appointments relating to one or more dental appliances, comprising:

        a network to communicate information relating to ~~the~~ a community;

        one or more patient computers coupled to the network;

        one or more treating professional computers coupled to the network; and

        a server coupled to the network, the server comprising stored ~~storing~~ data for each patient, the server configured to automatically send a message to a patient computer or a treating professional computer in the absence of the patient prompting the server to send the message,

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when the appliances reach a predetermined stage in manufacturing, and to perform ~~performing~~ patient scheduling when the dental appliances reach a predetermined manufacturing progress.


12.    (Canceled)


13.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the server sends a message to a patient when the appliances are being marked.


14.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the server sends a message to the treating professional computer when the appliances reach one or more manufacturing stages.


15.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the server sends an electronic mail message conveying information relating to manufacturing progress.


16.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the server maintains an on-line calendar to schedule appointments with a patient.


17.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the server invites a patient to log-on and schedule an appointment when the appliances reach a predetermined manufacturing stage.


18.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the treating professionals include dentists or orthodontists.


19.    (Original)  The system of claim 11, wherein the treating professionals perform office management operations using the server.


20.    (Currently Amended)  A method to support dental patient scheduling relating to one or more dental appliances, comprising:

providing a server configured to communicate via a network information relating to a manufacturing stage of a dental appliance, the network coupled to one or more patient computers;

accessing a database having information regarding manufacturing progress of the one or more dental appliances;

determining whether the manufacturing progress has reached a predetermined stage;

automatically communicating manufacturing progress information with a patient computer over a wide area network in the absence of the patient prompting the server to communicate the manufacturing progress information; and

performing patient scheduling when one or more dental appliances reach a predetermined manufacturing progress.


21.    (New)  A system adapted to support dental patient scheduling, the system comprising:

a server configured to automatically communicate via a network information relating to a manufacturing stage of a dental appliance, the network coupled to one or more patient computers, the server comprising a storage media having instruction that if executed cause the server to:

access a database having information regarding manufacturing progress of the dental appliance;

determine whether the manufacturing progress has reached a predetermined stage;

automatically communicate manufacturing progress information to a patient computer in the absence of the patient prompting the server to communicate the manufacturing progress information; and

perform patient scheduling when the one or more dental appliances has reached the predetermined stage.

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22.  (New)  The system of claim 21, wherein the network is further coupled to one or more treating professional computers.